



GROOTE SCHUUR HIGH SCHOOL

76 Palmyra Road, Newlands, 7700

Tel: +27 21 674 2165 Fax: +27 21 671 9436 e-mail: sysop@gshs.co.za

www.grooteschuurhigh.co.za

Newsletter 11/2021

15 July 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

We are out of superlatives to describe the times we are living in. As stated in Newsletter 10/2021, President Ramaphosa's "family meeting" on 11 July 2021 would confirm the Term 3 starting date. The president confirmed a sustained increase in daily infections and fatalities during this third wave. Government therefore decided to postpone the start of Term 3. At the same time, we have been watching with bated breath as several communities, roads and businesses were in turmoil, and lawlessness and looting of businesses reached unprecedented levels in democratic South Africa.

Term 3

The School Management Team discussed the revised starting date and decided to regard the additional week (19 to 23 July 2021) as a normal school closure period. This means that learners and staff will in effect have a mid-year break of three weeks. We regard this as a blessing – the two-week break was perceived to be too short, considering the additional stress and anxiety caused by the third wave of the pandemic.

We are yet to receive a departmental circular with specific regulations and guidelines.

Term 3's academic programme will start on Tuesday 27 July 2021. The details of the programme will become available when the mentioned circular is published.

We anticipate that the latter half of this academic year will present new and more

complex challenges, the extent of which is completely unknown. We need to prepare ourselves to be in the best possible frame of mind to be able to be equal to these challenges.

We are not able to advise foreign and out-of-town learners how to make their travel arrangements.

Grade 12 learners are advised to remain focused and disciplined, and continue with their personal study programmes.

COVID-19 Pandemic

The pandemic and its effects on our families remain unrelenting. We mourn the passing of family members – grandparents and parents, aunts and uncles and cousins, nieces and nephews. Our candle of hope remains lit for all of us, especially those who are grieving.

Candle of Hope



Families are encouraged to join the daily prayer vigils for our country. We should also maintain our awareness of the health protocols and practice

masking, sanitising and social distancing. Parents should ensure that children practice safe behaviour during the extended school holiday period.

The staff vaccination programme has been completed with 91,4% of staff vaccinated.

Stay Safe, Healthy and Blessed!

Marius Ehrenreich

Our vision of success:

GSHS learners are accountable, well-balanced people striving for academic excellence, while living lives of significance and service.